aware of any specific scheme for providing free internet access to senior citizens.

(b) and (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) is the biggest Government ISP. Presently they have no plans to introduce the internet connections to students and senior citizens in the country.

Internet Node in Tamil Nadu

945. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Internet Node at Sivaganga and Tirupattur in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) An Internet Node catering to Dial up customers is already operational at Sivaganga in Tamil Nadu. There is no plan to provide separate Internet Node at Tirupattur in Tamil Nadu since internet access at Tirupattur is already available on local call basis.

Bifurcation of Rural Telecom Sector

946. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) through a recent order has deprived more than 80 lakh subscribers of the status of 'Rural subscribers' by bifurcating the 'Rural' Telecom sector;

(b) whether earlier telecom sector was classified into two major categories as 'Urban' and 'Rural' based on census reports;